



Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, December 15, 2015

Board Members in Attendance:

David Nash, *Chair*

Brian Alexander, *Vice Chair*

April Burgess-Johnson

Lance Edwards

Dan Garrett

Jay Lively

Brooks Ann McKinney

Robin Merrell

Sabrah n'haRaven, *Secretary*

Rachel Nygaard

Micheal Woods

Staff:

Heather Dillashaw

Christiana Glenn Tugman

Guests:

Whitney Lott

Scott Parker

Mary Sczudlo

Amy Upham

CALL TO ORDER

1. Minutes

The minutes for the 11/18/2015 were unanimously approved by Dan Garrett's motion and second by Brooks Ann McKinney.

2. W-4 ART Extension to Villas at Fallen Spruce

David Nash provided an update on the recommendation to the City and County to extend the W-4 transit route 3/4 mile outside of the City limits to serves the residents of Mountain Housing Opportunities' affordable housing development, Villas at Fallen Spruce.

Brian Alexander made a motion to approve the recommendation to City Council, County Commissioners and the Transit Commission which was seconded by Robin Merrell and approved on a 10-1 vote. Those members voting in favor were: Chair Nash, Alexander, Burgess-Johnson, Edwards, Garrett, Lively, McKinney, Merrell, and Woods. Member Sabrah n'haRaven voted against.

3. Community Input Survey

Sabrah n'haRaven had previously sent out a draft community survey. The plan would be to present the document at the next Homeless Coalition meeting and distributed through agencies willing to participate. There was general agreement that homelessness would be self-identified by the participants for the purpose of the survey. There were suggestions to include survey location, interviewer/agency identification and the possible endorsement from the Committee. Concern was expressed about the leading nature of some survey questions. Committee input would be provided to the Survey Sub-committee for revision.

4. Strategic Planning / Priorities from HIAC

The Committee discussed and developed the following draft recommendations to the City and County:

- Complete the goal of ending chronic homelessness in Asheville and Buncombe County no later than December 2017, using the Housing First model and the strategies and measurement tools developed to reach functional zero with homeless veterans this year.
- Secure a dedicated funding source for the housing support services needed to accomplish the first goal above by July 1, 2016, and expand that funding over the next three years to reach a client to case manager ratio no higher than 25:1, on a rolling need basis.
- Develop public/private partnerships to complete the construction by December 31, 2017, of at least 100 new units of permanent housing targeted for homeless people and families, including at least 25 new units for people with extreme needs who are hard to house. (Duplicate this goal on a rolling annual basis until the need is met.)
- Finalize a new strategic plan by July 1, 2016, to build on the successes of the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness and identify all key strategies over the next five years, with outreach to and meaningful input from people experiencing homelessness.

5. Board Vacancy / New Members

The Committee welcomed new member Rachael Nygaard for a three year term.

6. Agency Updates and Public Comment

A request was made to include medically assisted shelter on an upcoming meeting.

ADJOURN

For more information on the Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee, please contact Christiana Glenn Tugman at ctugman@ashevillenc.gov.